

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 041780

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T STATE 041780

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, JA, IAEA

SUBJECT: JAPAN AND NPT

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL CALLED IN JAPANESE
AMBASSADOR YASUKAWA ON FEB 24 TO DISCUSS NPT. NOTING THAT
SECRETARY HAD ASKED HIM TO MAKE CLEAR TO GOJ THE US POSI-
TION CONCERNING JAPANESE RATIFICATION OF THE NPT, DEPUTY
SECRETARY MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) US IS PLEASED THAT
SAFEGUARDS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA HAVE BEEN COMPLETED TO
SATISFACTION OF BOTH GOJ AND IAEA; B) US WILL WORK FOR
EARLY FAVORABLE ACTION BY THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS ON
THE AGREEMENT; C) WHILE THE DECISION ON RATIFICATION IS, OF
COURSE, UP TO JAPAN, US DID NOT WANT FAILURE TO MAKE REPRE-
SENTATIONS AT THIS TIME TO BE MISINTERPRETED AS LACK OF
INTEREST IN JAPANESE RATIFICATION; D) US HOPES THAT
PROGRESS IN VIENNA WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR JAPAN TO
RATIFY THE NPT IN TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NPT REVIEW

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 041780

CONFERENCE AS A PARTY; E) US HOPES THAT RATIFICATION

BY JAPAN AND THE EURATOM COUNTRIES WILL REVITALIZE THE
CAUSE OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION, F) JAPAN'S RATIFICATION

MAY WELL ENCOURAGE SIMILAR MOVES BY OTHER STATES SUCH AS

SOUTH KOREA AND ITALY; G) RATIFICATION WILL STRENGTHEN THE
WEIGHT OF JAPAN'S VOICE IN UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS AMONG
THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIER NATIONS AND IN COOPERATION ON THE
PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY.

2. YASUKAWA NOTED THAT OFFICIAL GOJ POSITION WAS TO
SUPPORT RATIFICATION AND SAID THAT JAPANESE INDUSTRIAL
LEADERS HAD ALSO CHANGED EARLIER NEGATIVE ATTITUDES TO
ACTIVE SUPPORT. HE SAID THERE WERE DISSIDENT ELEMENTS
WITHIN LDP, BUT ADDED HE PERSONALLY DID NOT BELIEVE THAT
ANY OF THESE MEN WERE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT US POSITION
FAVORING JAPANESE RATIFICATION. HE SAID HE WOULD REPORT
OUR REPRESENTATION IMMEDIATELY, BUT CAUTIONED AGAINST ANY
PUBLIC RELEASE OF FACT THAT US HAD MADE DEMARCHE FOR FEAR
THAT JAPANESE PRESS WOULD TREAT IT AS "US PRESSURE" WHICH
MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. SO FAR, PRESS HAD NOT BE-
COME AWARE OF FACT THAT YASUKAWA HAD APPOINTMENT WITH
DEPUTY SECRETARY.

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